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PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN™



...OF
SPIDERS
AND
SNAKES!



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While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the arachnid's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

STAN LEE PRESENTS: **THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN!**

BILL MANTLO * JIM MOONEY * FRANK SPRINGER * NOVAK, LETTERS * A. MILGROM * J. SHOOTER
WRITER ARTIST INKER SHAREN, COLORS EDITOR ED-IN-CHIEF



THE "WORLD OF DARKNESS" AT THE BRONX ZOO...

HOLY SMOKES! WHEN I CHASED CURT CONNORS IN HERE I HAD THE SINKING FEELING I'D HAVE TO FIGHT THE LIZARD AGAIN!

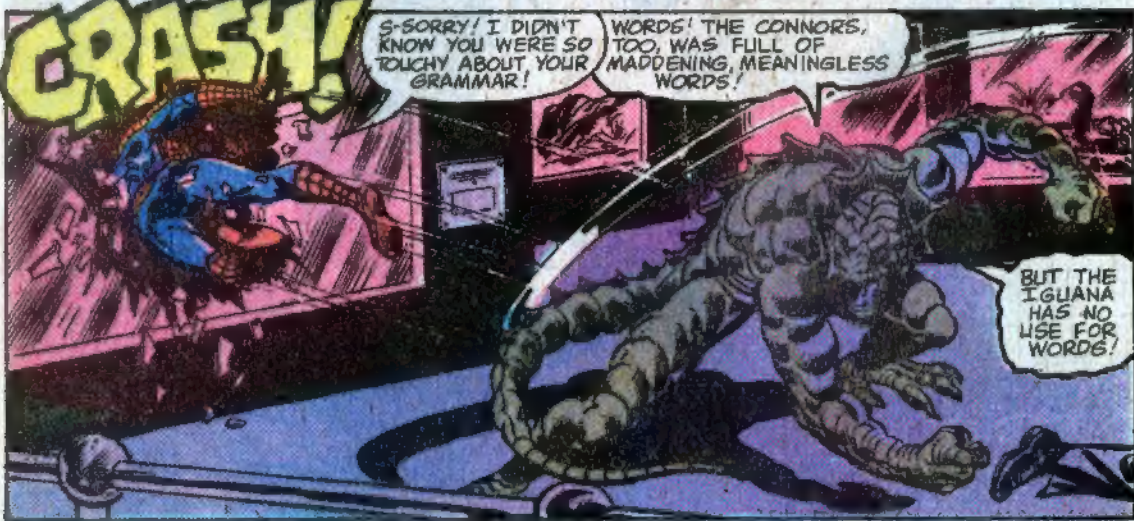
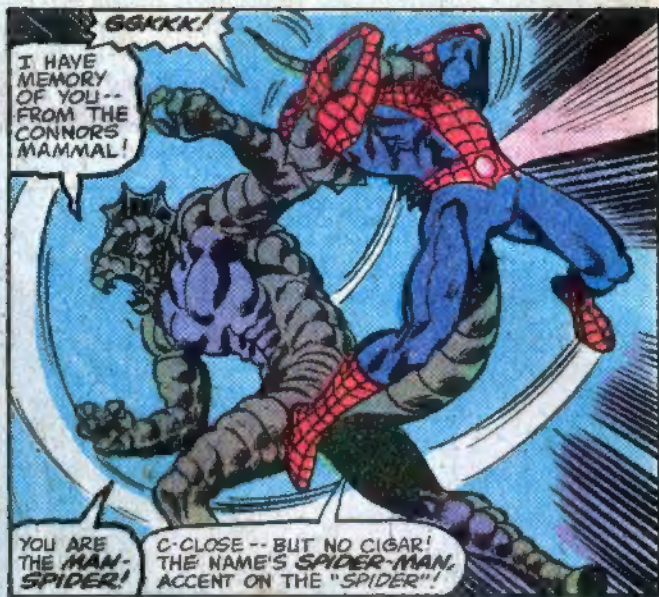
WELL, IT ONLY JUST SHOWS TO GO YA-- EVEN A SPIDER-MAN CAN BE WRONG!

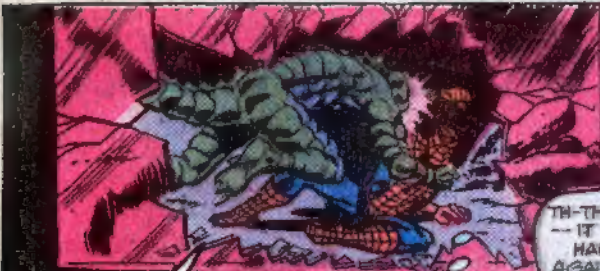
HSSS! BEWARE, MAMMAL! CONNORS COULD NOT STOP THE IGUANA, AND NEITHER CAN YOU!

NIGHT OF THE IGUANA!

SO WHO-- OR WHAT-- IS THE INCREDIBLE IGUANA, AND WHAT SINISTER SECRET DOES IT SHARE WITH DR. CONNORS? READ ON AND SEE, PILGRIMS!

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BECAUSE YOU HURT ME, MAMMAL-- WITH THE LIGHT! ALL WHO HURT THE IGUANA MUST DIE!

LIGHT? HE MUST MEAN MY SPIDER-BEAM?

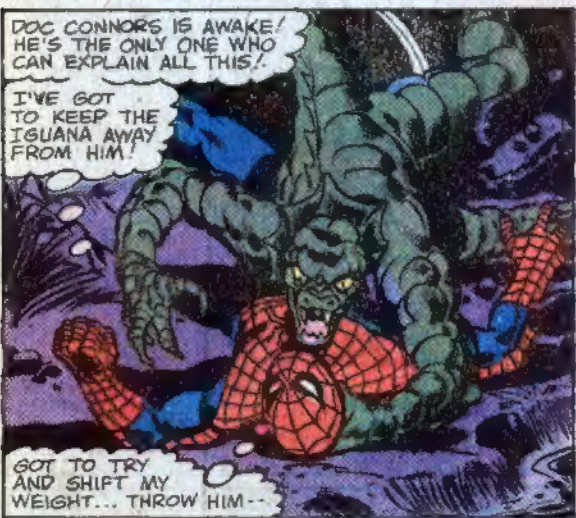
TH-TH-CHANGE --IT MUST HAVE HAPPENED AGAIN! WHERE AM I?



OH, LORD! THE IGUANA... AND SPIDER-MAN!

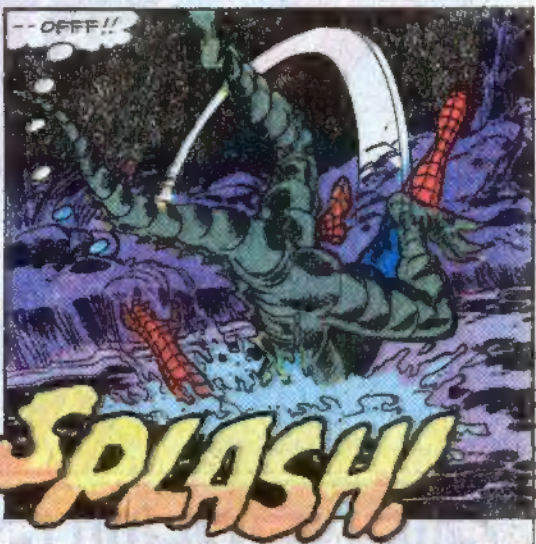
DOC CONNORS IS AWAKE! HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN EXPLAIN ALL THIS!

I'VE GOT TO KEEP THE IGUANA AWAY FROM HIM!



GOT TO TRY AND SHIFT MY WEIGHT... THROW HIM--

--OFF!!



SPLASH!



NOT TOO BRIGHT, WALL-CRAWLER!



YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO COME UP ON TOP!

BESIDES, THE WATER DOESN'T SEEM TO BOTHER LIZARD-LIPS ANY!



I GUESS I'D BETTER QUIT THE COSTEAU BIT AND TRY SOMETHING ELSE!

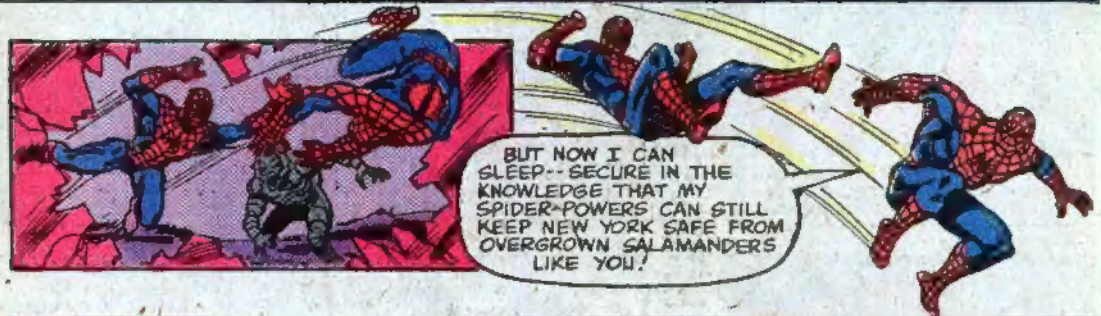
SWOK!

GOOD THING MY SPIDEY COSTUME'S DRIP-DRY!



ARRR! YOU HURT ME, SPIDER-MAMMAL!

GLAD TO HEAR IT, SCALEY! I WAS UNDERGOING A CRISIS OF CONFIDENCE THINKING MY PUNCHES HAD NO EFFECT!



BUT NOW I CAN SLEEP-- SECURE IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT MY SPIDER-POWERS CAN STILL KEEP NEW YORK SAFE FROM OVERGROWN SALAMANDERS LIKE YOU!



WHICH JUST LEAVES A HALF-ZILLION MUGGERS TO BE TAKEN CARE OF!

NOW I REMEMBER WHY THE CONNORS HATES YOU, MAMMAL!



HATES? GOSH, I THOUGHT ME AND DOC WERE BEST BUDDIES!

BUT CONNORS' OTHER SELF HATES YOU!



--FOR TRYING TO DESTROY IT-- JUST AS YOU TRY TO DESTROY ME!

I WASN'T TRYING TO DESTROY ANYTHING, FELLA!

I BUMPED INTO YOU BY ACCIDENT IN THE DARK!

SPIDER-MAN, BE CAREFUL! THE IGUANA HAS ALL THE POWERS OF THE LIZARD!



TO FIND OUT JUST WHAT DOCTOR CONNORS MEANS, WE MUST SHIFT OUR ATTENTION MOMENTARILY TO THE BRONX ZOO'S "WORLD OF REPTILES," WHERE MARCY KANE HAS CONDUCTED A CLASS OF EMPIRE STATE UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATES...

I DON'T KNOW WHERE DR. CONNORS OR PETER PARKER DISAPPEARED TO--

--BUT I SUPPOSE WE CAN BEGIN OUR RESEARCH TOUR WITHOUT THEM! FIRST, ARE THERE ANY QUESTIONS FROM THE CLASS?



UH, MS. KANE?

YES, JOHN?

C-CAN THE LIZARDS IN THIS SECTION BREAK OUT OF THEIR HABITAT CAGES?

WHY, NO-- I DON'T THINK SO!

WHILE, IN THE
"WORLD OF
DARKNESS"...

CAN I USE MY
FULL POWER
AGAINST
GRUESOME,
DOC--OR WILL
I BE SOMEHOW
STRIKING AT
YOU THROUGH
THE IGUANA?

HE'S GOT MY MEMORIES
AND THE LIZARD'S
POWERS, SPIDER-MAN...BUT
HE'S NOT EITHER OF US!

THE LIZARD'S
POWERS? YEAH,
YOU'VE MENTIONED
THAT TWICE NOW!
ISN'T ONE OF
THOSE POWERS
THE ABILITY TO--

--COMMAND
OTHER
REPTILES TO
DO HIS
BIDDING?!

LORD, YES!
WE'RE
TRAPPED!

SURROUNDED, YES! TRAPPED,
NO! C'MON, DOC--WE'RE
GOING FOR A STROLL
ON THE CEILING!

BUT THE CONNORS MAMMAL WILL
EVENTUALLY THROW YOU OFF
BALANCE, BRINGING YOU WITHIN
REACH OF MY FLAILING TAIL--

--OR THE WAITING
FANGS OF MY
SERPENTINE PETS!

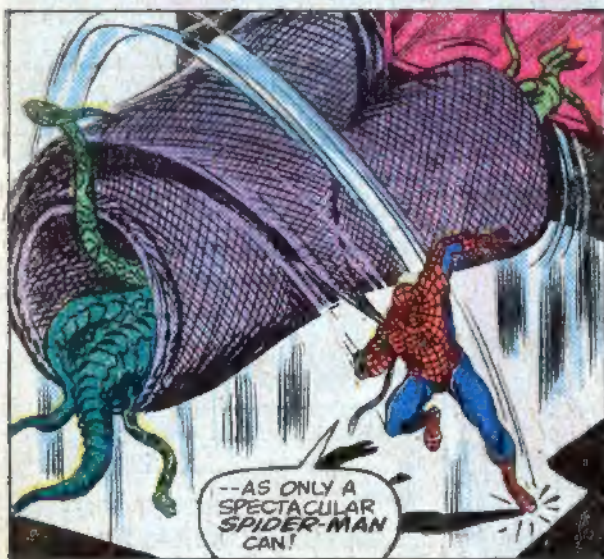
SPIDER-
MAN, LET
ME GO!
DON'T
DOOM
YOUR-
SELF!

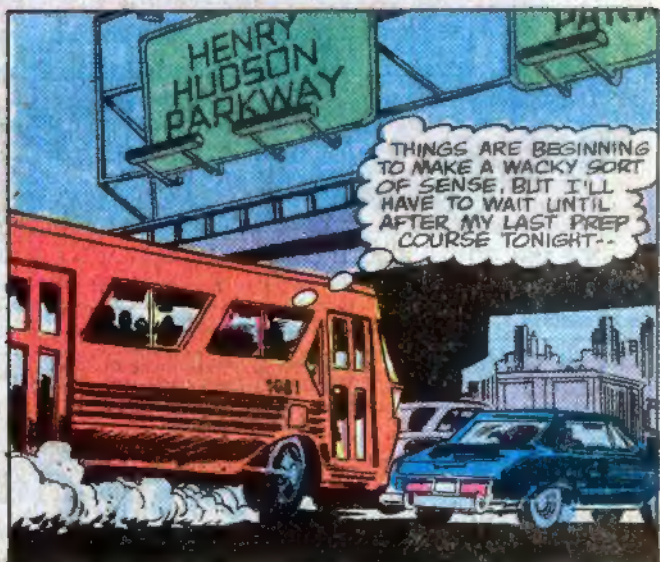
NO WAY, DOC!
I'VE HAD TO SAVE
YOU FROM YOURSELF
TOO MANY TIMES TO
LET THE IGUANA DO
YOU IN NOW!

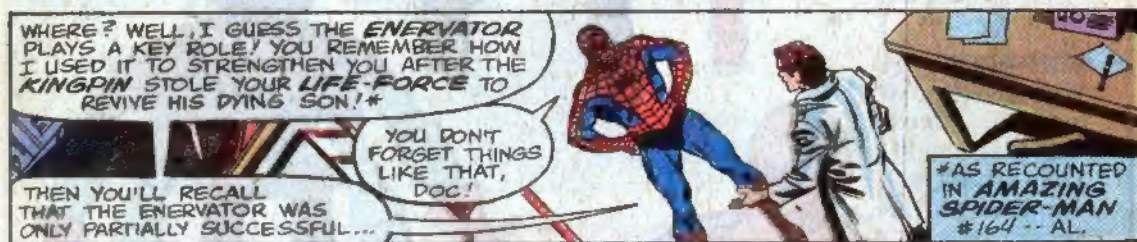
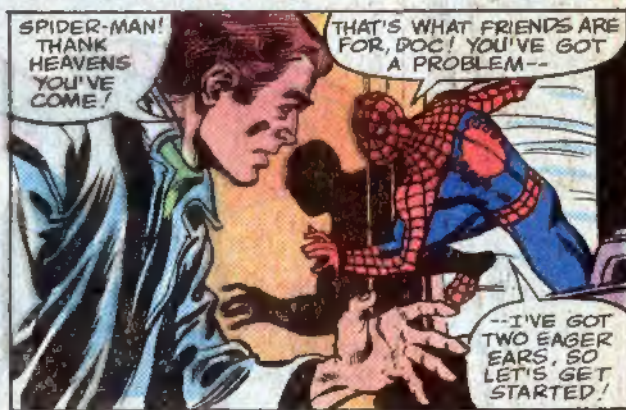
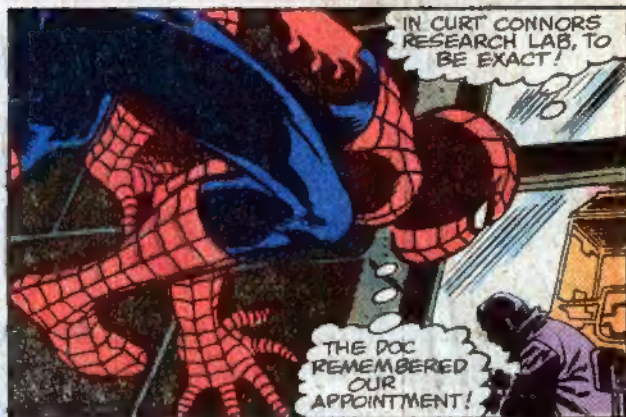
BESIDES, THIS CIRCUIT-BOX
MAY UPSET 1969'S CALCULATIONS!

HOW? I
DON'T
UNDER-
STAND?

SIMPLE,
DOC! THIS
PANEL CONTAINS
THE MASTER
LIGHT SWITCH--



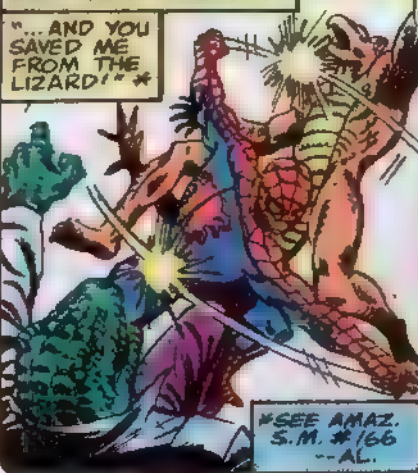




"WHICH, COUPLED WITH THE TRAUMA OF SEEING MY SON, BILLY, KIDNAPPED BY STEGRON, THE DINOSAUR MAN..."



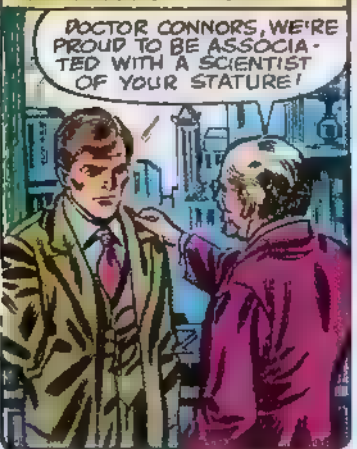
"THERE FOLLOWED A BATTLE THAT WILL FOREVER HAUNT MY NIGHTMARES! THE LIZARD SAVED MY SON FROM STEGRON..."



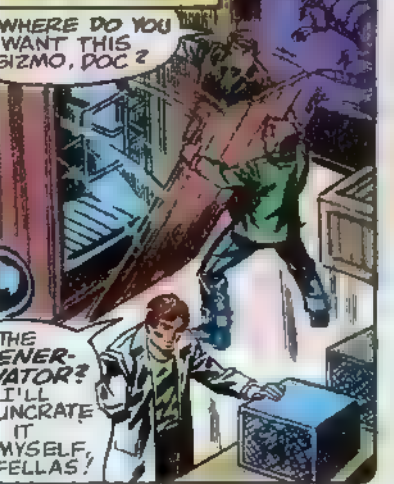
BUT YOU CAME THROUGH IN THE END, TURNING STEGRON'S ANIMATED FOSSIL'S BACK TO INANIMATE BONES!



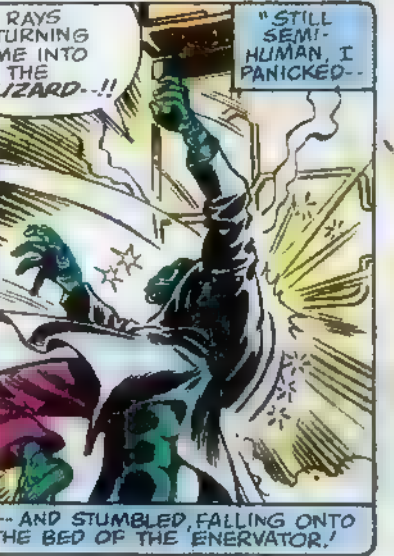
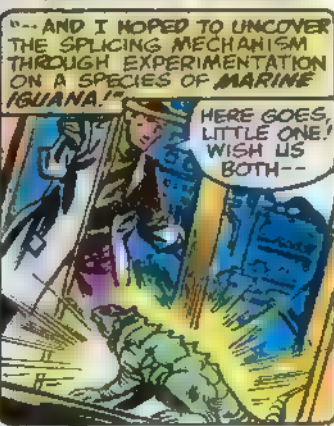
"SOON AFTER I WAS OFFERED A RESEARCH GRANT TO CONTINUE MY STUDIES IN REPTILE REGENERATION AT ESU!"



"I THREW MYSELF INTO MY WORK!"



"FOR I BELIEVED I HAD FINALLY FOUND A WAY TO REGENERATE MY MISSING ARM! UNDER CERTAIN STIMULI, LIZARD GENES SEEMED TO RESPICE IF SEVERED--



"LIKE THE LIZARD, THE IGUANA HATED ITS MAMMALIAN ALTER-EGO! IT WANTED TO KILL ME... BUT SOMETHING STOPPED IT.



"SO IT HYPNOTIZED ME THE WAY A SNAKE MESMERIZES ITS PREY!

"AND ORDERED ME TO FORGET ITS EXISTENCE AS IT STALKED AT NIGHT--RETURNING TO ORIGINAL SIZE AND ITS CAGE BY DAY!"



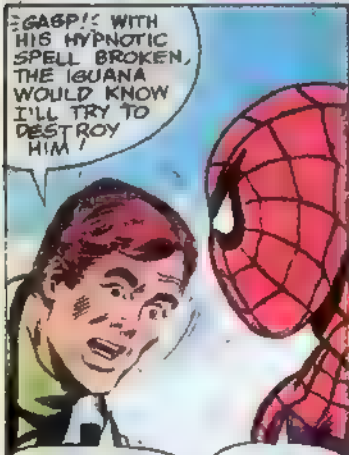
AND YOU DID FORGET? WOW! THAT'S SOME STORY, DOC!

BUT IT COULD'VE BEEN WORSE! THAT MIGHT BE YOU--AS THE LIZARD--STALKING THE STREETS!



IT'S ALMOST AS IF IT AS ME! THE IGUANA HAS ALL MY MEMORIES... KNOWS MY THOUGHT PROCESSES...

GASP! WITH HIS HYPNOTIC SPELL BROKEN, THE IGUANA WOULD KNOW I'LL TRY TO DESTROY HIM!



HE'LL TRY TO STRIKE AT ME FIRST--OR AT MY FAMILY!

DON'T WORRY ON THAT SCORE, DOC!

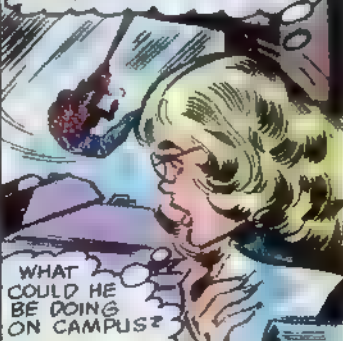
YOU STAY HERE AND WORK ON A WAY TO REVERSE THE IGUANA'S GROWTH--



--AND I'LL GO GUARD THE HOMEFRONT!

SECONDS LATER, AS OUR WALL-CRAWLER SWINGS PAST THE ESU DORMITORIES...

SPIDER-MAN--COMING FROM THE DIRECTION OF THE PHYSICS BUILDING?



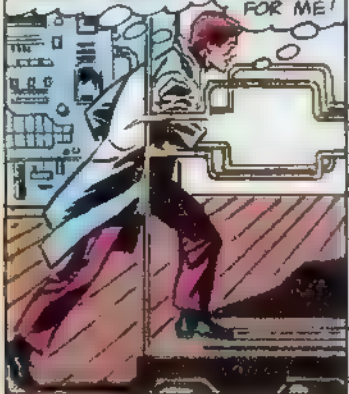
WHAT COULD HE BE DOING ON CAMPUS?

AS MARCY KANE PONDERES THAT QUESTION--

--CURT CONNERS MAKES A FATEFUL DECISION!

THE IGUANA'S AS POWERFUL AS THE LIZARD-- BUT EVEN MORE RUTHLESS, MORE DEADLY!

I CAN'T LET SPIDER-MAN SACRIFICE HIMSELF FOR ME!



I--I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING I'VE NEVER DONE VOLUNTARILY!



I'VE GOT TO BECOME--
--THE LIZARD!!...



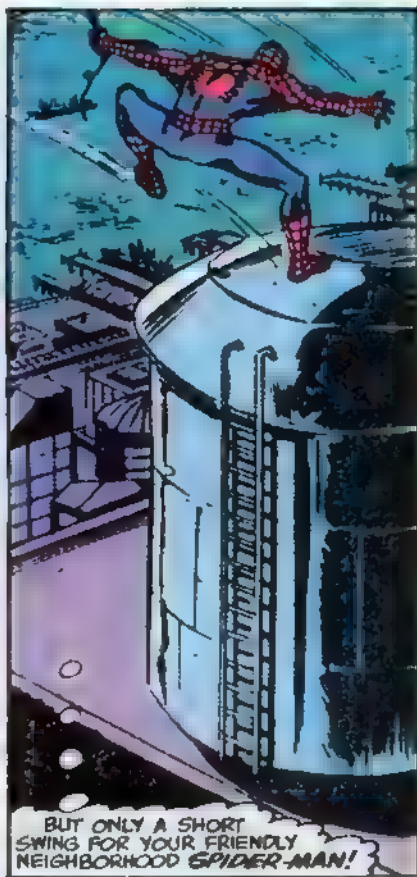
AND DESTROY THE ONE WHO DARED LIZARD MY POWER!

MEANWHILE, HIGH ABOVE MANHATTAN'S UPPER EAST SIDE...



DOC CONNORS TOLD ME HE AND HIS FAMILY HAVE MOVED FROM THEIR MID-MANHATTAN APARTMENT TO A PENTHOUSE ON YORK AVENUE!

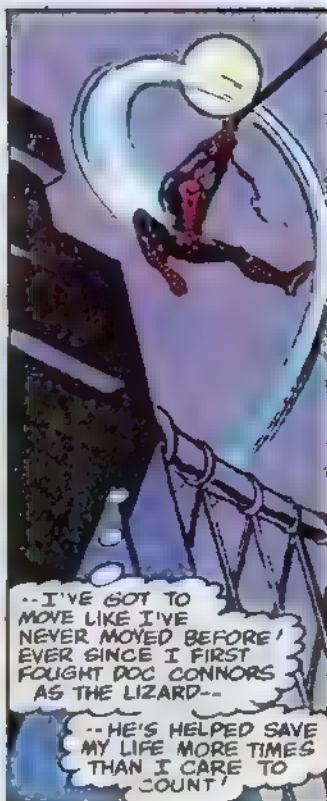
THAT'S QUITE A HOP DOWNTOWN FROM THE UNIVERSITY...



BUT ONLY A SHORT SWING FOR YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN!



STILL, I'VE GOT TO DOUBLE TIME IT! WITH MRS CONNORS AND BILLY IN POSSIBLE DANGER--



--I'VE GOT TO MOVE LIKE I'VE NEVER MOVED BEFORE! EVER SINCE I FIRST FOUGHT DOC CONNORS AS THE LIZARD--

--HE'S HELPED SAVE MY LIFE MORE TIMES THAN I CARE TO COUNT!



AND BESIDES THAT, HE'S BEEN A REAL FRIEND!

AND FRIENDS ARE SOME-
THING THIS L'IL WEB-
SPINNER HAS TOO
FEW OF--



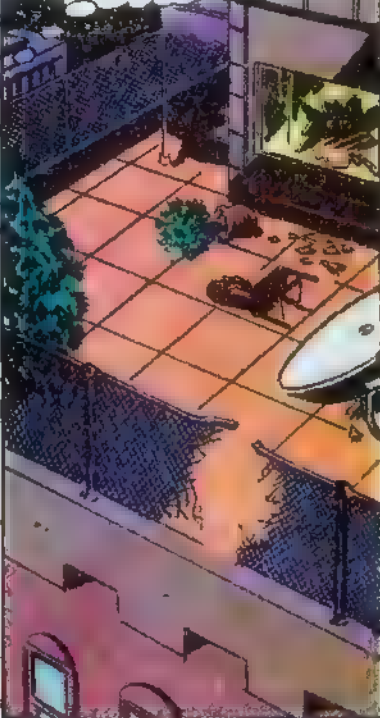
--TO ALLOW ONE TO
BE HELD AT THE
MERCY OF A RUTH-
LESS REPTILE WITH
MURDER IN ITS
HEART!

AH! THERE'S
THE CONNORS'
PENTHOUSE!

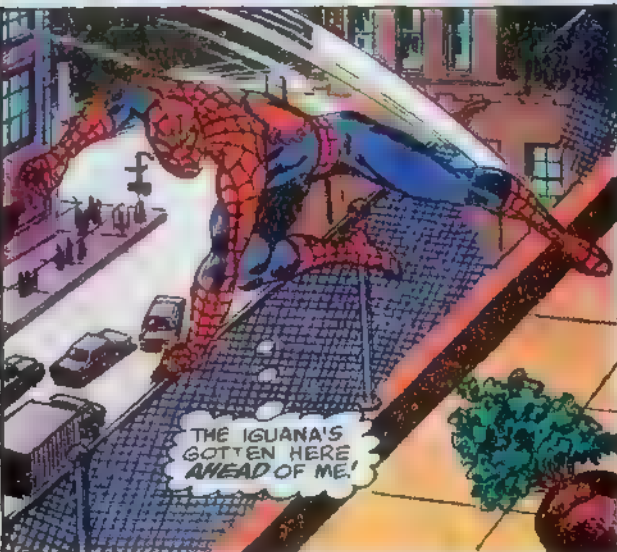


I'LL JUST
SWING OVER
AND-- UH-OH!

THE TERRACE LOOKS LIKE A
BATTLE-ZONE! CYCLONE
FENCE TORN ASUNDER--
PATIO FURNITURE STREWN
ABOUT!



IT CAN ONLY MEAN
ONE THING-- THE
VERY THING DOC
CONNORS MOST
FEARED!



THE IGUANA'S
GOTTEN HERE
AHEAD OF ME!

BUT IF THAT
SLITHERING SAURIAN
HAS DONE ANYTHING
TO HURT THE DOC'S
FAMILY--



--HE'S GONNA
HAVE TA ANSWER
TO A FIGHTING-
MAD SPIDER-
MAN!

AT THAT MOMENT, INSIDE THE CONNORS' PENTHOUSE APARTMENT...

PLEASE! WHO-- WHAT ARE YOU? WHAT DO YOU WANT OF US?

INSURANCE, SHE-MAMMAL! A GUARANTEE THAT YOUR HUSBAND WILL NOT SEEK TO DESTROY ME!

YOU TAKE ONE MORE STEP NEAR MY MOM AND I'M GONNA LET YOU HAVE IT, MISTER!

THE WHELP SHOWS COURAGE-- BUT HARDLY COMMON SENSE! UNLIKE THE LIZARD, WHO WILL NOT CAUSE HIS LOVED ONES HARM...

...THERE ARE NO SUCH RESTRICTIONS ON THE INCREDIBLE IGUANA!

WANNA BET, TURKEY?

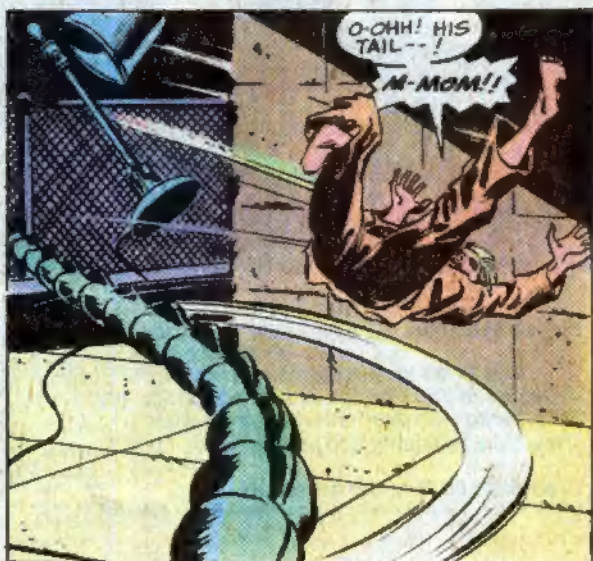
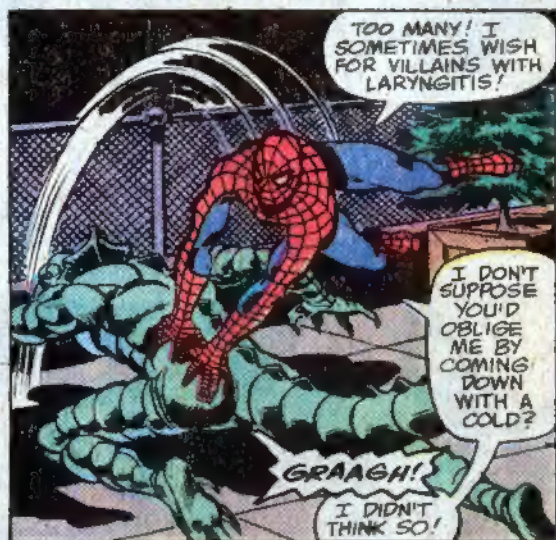
AARGH! WHO DARES--?

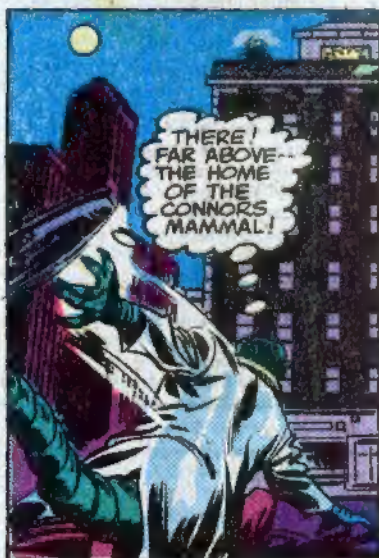
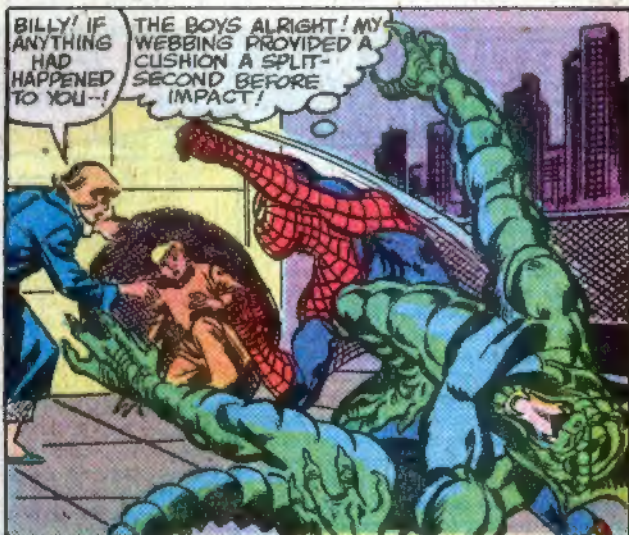
JUST YOUR WINSOME WALL-CRAWLER, DROPPED BY TO CATCH A TIGER BY THE TAIL!

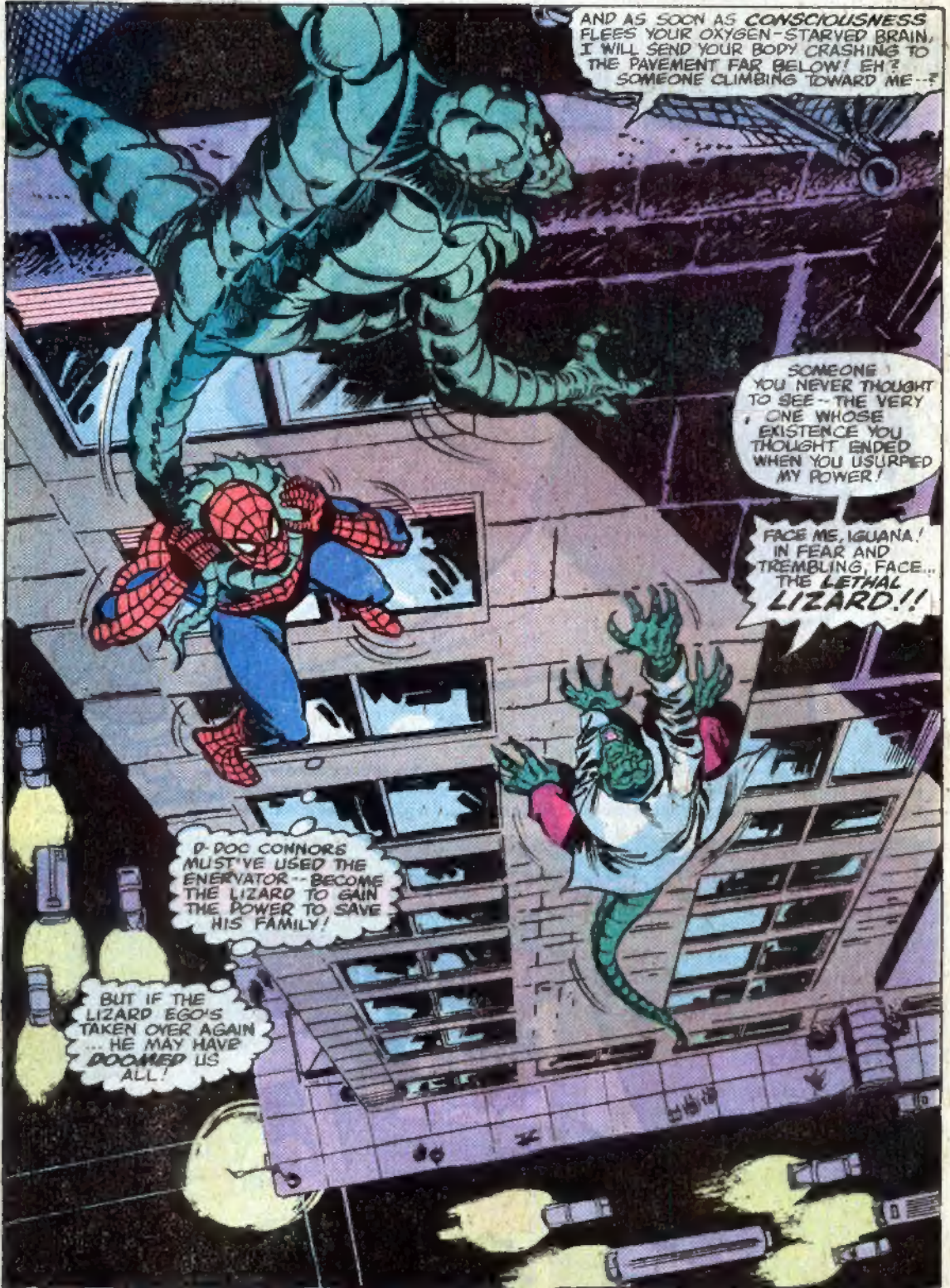
WRONG SPECIES-- BUT THE RIGHT IDEA!

SPIDER-MAN! THANK HEAVEN!

CURSED MAMMAL! YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN SATISFIED WITH YOUR INITIAL VICTORY OVER ME--







AND AS SOON AS CONSCIOUSNESS
FLEES YOUR OXYGEN-STARVED BRAIN,
I WILL SEND YOUR BODY CRASHING TO
THE PAVEMENT FAR BELOW! EH?
SOMEONE CLIMBING TOWARD ME--?

SOMEONE
YOU NEVER THOUGHT
TO SEE-- THE VERY
ONE WHOSE
EXISTENCE YOU
THOUGHT ENDED
WHEN YOU USURPED
MY POWER!

FACE ME, IGUANA!
IN FEAR AND
TREMBLING, FACE...
THE LETHAL
LIZARD!!

D-DOC CONNORS
MUST'VE USED THE
ENERVATOR-- BECOME
THE LIZARD TO GAIN
THE POWER TO SAVE
HIS FAMILY!

BUT IF THE
LIZARD EGO'S
TAKEN OVER AGAIN
... HE MAY HAVE
DOOMED US
ALL!

NEXT **LIZARD** ON A **HOT TIN ROOF!**